

**IN THE SPECIFICATION:****Please replace paragraph [0001] with the following amended paragraph:**

[0001] This patent application is related to ~~co~~-pending U.S. patent application entitled "METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR DEFLECTING FLOODING ATTACKS" by Thomas A. Maufer and Sameer Nanda, filed December 31, 2002, application number 10/334,656, U.S. Patent Number 7,234,161 having a issue date of June 19, 2007, assigned to the same assignee as this patent application, which is incorporated by reference as though fully set forth herein.

**Please replace paragraph [0002] with the following amended paragraph:**

[0002] This patent application is related to co-pending patent application entitled "METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR PERFORMING NETWORK PROCESSING FUNCTIONS" by Robert A. Alfieri, Gary D. Hicok, Paul J. Sidenblad, filed December 13, 2002, application number 10/319,791, U.S Publication No. 2004/0114589 having a publication date of June 17, 2004, assigned to the same assignee as this patent application, which is incorporated by reference as though fully set forth herein.

**Please replace paragraph [0004] with the following amended paragraph:**

[0004] This patent application is related to ~~co~~-pending U.S. patent application entitled "METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR SECURITY PROTOCOL AND ADDRESS TRANSLATION INTEGRATION" by Thomas A. Maufer, Sameer Nanda, and Paul J. Sidenblad, filed June 13, 2002, application number 10/172,352, U.S. Patent No. 7,143,137 having an issue date of November 28, 2006, assigned to the same assignee

as this patent application, which is incorporated by reference as though fully set forth herein.